engaged by the Delhi Telephones Headquarters and the Delhi Telephones since 1st January, 1991 alongwith amount paid to the vehicle owners and on their running maintenance;

(c) the justification for engaging such a large number of private vehicles; and

(d) what are the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to discourage such type of expenditure by the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Sir, the total number of departmental vehicles with the Corporate Office of MTNL and with Delhi Telephones as on 31.1.92 are 16 and 392 respectively.

(b) The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Hiring of vehicles is done after due scrutiny taking into account utilisation of the fleet of departmental vehicles against sanctioned/justified vehciles as per standards. Normally vehicles are hired on temporary basis to cope up with the increased work load in view of tight commissioning programme for achieving the tough targets.

(d) Hiring of vehicles is resorted to meet the shortage of departmental vehicles only for unavoidable operational needs and based on norms and standards. The number of vehicles being hired is being kept under close scrutiny so as ensure that this is fully commensurate with the justification as per standards.

Tatkal Scheme for providing telephone connection

1885. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) wether Tatkal Scheme for providing telephone connections has been introduced;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) what is the outcome of this scheme, if implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Tatkal Scheme for provision of telephone connections has been in operation since 10.6.1988.

(c) Those applicants who are in immediate need of telephone connection and are willing to pay a non-interest bearing deposit of Rs. 30,000/-can avail of new telephone connection under this scheme where ever feasible. The telephone connection is to be provided within two weeks by the department.

Delivery of Letters and Packets in Bombay

1886. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 88 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Bombay High Courts's decision in regard to non-delivery of letter and dak over and above second floor in Bombay and other places;

(b) what is the extent to which it is being implemented;

(c) what is the direction of the High Court; and

(d) whether Government have preferred an appeal against the High Court in the Supreme Court or not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, the Government are aware of the decision of the Bombay High Court on the proposed scheme of delivery of unregistered mail to addresses in storyed buildings, through Mail Box.

(b) The decison is being complied with;

(c) The direction of the High Court is that the Department of posts should present to the Court, as submitted before the Court on behalf of the Department of Posts, modifications in the scheme of delivery through Mail Box, taking into consideration all aspects of the matter, before May 1, 1992, and that till then, the scheme shall not be operated on Greater Bombay except in respect of those who voluntarily comply.

(d) Does not arise, as this Order of the

High Court is based on the submission made on behalf of the Department.

Increase in Telephone Coverage in Karnataka

1887. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from Tele-Commuters' Association of India, Bangalore, regarding the need to increase telephone coverage in Karnataka as is the case with Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so what are details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any action in the matter; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTERY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) as per statement.

Statement

Details	Action Taken
1. Local area of Bangalore Telephones should cover all the area falling under Bangalore Metropolitan Authority	1. The local of Bangalore Telephones will cover only the Corporation/Cantonment area as per the existing rules.
2. All the 175 Talukas in Karnataka should be covered by STD Network	2. 67 Talukas headquarters have been connected to STD network so far and the remaining will be covered progressively by the end of VII Plan.
3. Refund of rental for non-functioning of Telephones for more than 15 days in general and specially during strike period of 30/11/90 to 22/11/1990.	3. Rebate in rental in cases where the telephone is not found worked continueously for 7 days and more is granted. The same applies to any period.
4. Request to be made to allocate land for DOT for the purpose of civic amenities.	4. Every effort is being made to get civic amenity sites for telephone exchanges. Bangalore Telecom District is continuously in touch with BDA in this matter.
5. Easy procedure of shifting and transfer of registration of telephones within Bangalore Telephone System.	5. Clear rules are laid down governing shift of telephones from one each to another within the local area of telephone system. This procedure for shifting and transfer of registeration of telephones takes into account the varying period for which subscribers are to wait for a New Telephone connection. These rules apply all over the country.
6. Access to all special, demand trunk, and inland trunk services.	6. Access to the special, demand trunk and inland trunk, services is restricted to the local area of a telephone system. Each telephone system is providing access to such services within the local area.
7. Installation of electronic exchange at Kengiri	7. The electronic exhange at Kengiri is likely to be provided during 1993-94.
8. Impartial distribution of telephone directory.	8. Telephone Directory published by Bangalore Telecom District covers all exchanges in Bangalore Revenue Distt. These directories are distributed to all the subscribers progressively in an expenditious manner.
9. Opening of customer service centres and periodical meetings with subscribers.	9. There are 12 customer service centres operating within Bangalore Telephones. Meetings with Public (Open house Sessions) are regularly held every six months.
10. The calls between Kengiri and Yelahanka should be treated as local calls.	10. Yelahanka and Kengiri are non adjecent local area systems. They have to intercommunicate only through STD/Manual Trunk service.